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Mass Shooting in Orlando, Florida, Emphasizes the Need for Preparedness

Today's mass shooting in Orlando, Florida, shows how quickly a terrorist event can occur. Citizens need to be on alert when visiting businesses and other establishments.

“When you go to a public place, take time to locate the exits. Should you face an assailant, leave your belongings and escape. If you can't run, then hide. Be quiet, turn off cell phones, lights, and barricade the door. If you can't run or hide, then fight the assailant. Practicing these techniques will increase your chances of survival,” said Dale Lane, Director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness has partnered with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, F.B.I. and other law enforcement agencies during the past several months to conduct *Active Shooter Awareness* training classes at schools, businesses and community organizations across the county. Thousands of people have taken the one-hour class. The sessions are free and can be scheduled online at www.staysafeshelby.us or calling (901) 222-6700.

“The magnitude of today's tragedy in Orlando, Florida, calls for the support of citizens across our nation. We in Shelby County offer our sympathy and prayers for the victims and their families,” added Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

(End of Release)